

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ST JOH 00325 192211Z

22-11

ACTION EUR-12

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R 192100Z DEC 75

FM AMCONSUL ST JOHNS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1303

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS ST JOHNS 325

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS PFOR

SUBJECT COMMENTS BY AMB PORTER ON CANADA - US RELATIONS

1. ST JOHN'S EVENING TELEGRAM OF 12/17/75 HEADLINED LEAD EDITORIAL QUOTE CANADIAN-U.S. RELATIONS UNQUOTE AND WENT ON TO DISCUSS COMMENTS ALLEGEDLY MADE BY AMB PORTER TO CERTAIN OTTAWA JOURNALISTS ON CURRENT CANADIAN-US RELATIONSHIPS. FACTS AS GIVEN IN EDITORIAL WERE A RE-HASH OF WIRE SERVICE REPORTS. CONCLUSION DRAWN BY PAPER WAS THAT JUST AS QUOTE FRENCH FACT UNQUOTE IS CAUSE FOR MUCH DISSENSATION WITHIN CANADA SO ALSO IS QUOTE AMERICAN FACT UNQUOTE A FACTOR TO BE CONSIDERED. EDITORIAL WENT ON TO CHARACTERIZE US AS RICH AND POWERFUL NATION HUNGRY FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND BENT ON EXPANSION IN VARIOUS FORMS. IN TERMS OF REALPOLITIK, CANADIAN INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY SAID TO BE VERY MUCH CONTINGENT ON BENEVOLENT ATTITUDE BY THE AMERICAN GIANT. WITH 1976 AN ELECTION YEAR WHEN COMMENTS SUCH AS AMB'S EASILY TRANSLATED INTO POLITICAL ISSUES, A TRUDEAU-FORD SUMMIT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO DISPEL WHATEVER CLOUDS MAY HAVE BEEN CREATED BY THE PORTER SOUND-OFF.

2. ALTHOUGH ABOVE SUMMARY MAY SEEM TO HAVE AIR OF INDIGNATION OR OVER-REACTION, TENOR OF EDITORIAL AS PRINTED WAS MILD AND IN NO WAY ALARMIST. NO ONE HAS RAISED INCIDENT IN CONVERSATION WITH ME AND I HAVE NEITHER SEEN NOR HEARD OTHER COMMENTS IN MASS MEDIA.

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MOORE

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Message Attributes

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